हुआ और उसमें कुछ कमियां पाई गई, इसलिए यह तय हुआ कि इसका bridge software तैयार किया जाए। उसमें यदि वे हमसे सहायता चाहेंगे, तो हम NIC को कहेंगे, उस तरह से हम उनकी सहायता करने के लिए तैयार हैं।

* 524. [The questioner Shri Shahid Siddiqui was absent. For answer *vide* page 20 Infra]

Inspection Report of Admiral Gorshkov

*525. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the inspection of Admiral Gorshkov which was to be completed by March, 2008 is over;

(b) if so, the details of inspection report;

(c) whether it is a fact that Russia has made it clear to the Ministry that cost escalation of Admiral Gorshkov is a must; and

(d) if so, what is the price escalation Russia has proposed and to what extent Government has agreed to give?

* 524. [The question (s) Shri Shahid Siddiqui was absent. For answer *vide* page .....Infra]

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) The Russian side submitted a revised Master Schedule indicating a delay in the project and an increase in price for repair and re-equipping of aircraft carrier ex-Admiral Gorshkov. The Russian side has indicated revision in time and cost due to 'Growth of Work'. The price escalation proposed by the Russian side is US Dollar 1202 million. The process of examination of the scope and necessity for additional work projected by the Russian side has been initiated.

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Sir, as per the Minister's reply, the escalation proposal by Russia for completion of Gorshkov is 1,202 million US dollars. This is nothing but breach of contract. When the contract was signed, it was a fixed-price contract and there is no clause for renegotiation in the agreement. Now, Russia is saying that substantial price rise is inescapable and we are examining on this which does not exist at all in the original contract. Sir, by supplementary is, after our specialised team inspection of the warship, whether it is true that Russian team is visiting India to sign a modified contract with revised price of Gorshkov. In that event, the Government of India might have made up its mind about the contract. I wish to know how the Government is planning to manoeuvre through this contract and clinch the deal in favour of India without breach of contract.

SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU: Sir, the contract allows for growth and scope of work which has been submitted by the Russian side, and a Technical Evaluation Committee is examining the proposals. And, as and when, the examination is completed regarding the growth and scope of work and the necessity for the growth of work, a decision will be made on that.

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Sir, the growth of work is a pretext. It is learnt that in the new Russia, the defence exports are handled by ROSOBORON Export. This organisation is an autonomous organisation and profit is its sole motive and is not tied down by any strategic issues. I want to know from the Minister if it is a fact that this organisaiton is handling the Gorshkov deal. Is there any proposal before the Government to convince the

Russian Government for removing the ROSOBORON Export and permitting India to negotiate directly with Shipard and OEM.

SHRI A.K. ANTONY: Sir, initially, as per the presidential order signed by President Putin, the Russian Government took a decision that hereafter all the contracts with foreign countries regarding defence would be carried out by one single agency—ROSOBORON Export. We can directly deal with the ROSOBORON Export; we cannot directly deal with any OEM.

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Sir, my question was.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have asked your second supplementary.

SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Sir, the answer is not satisfactory. Sir, I am saying that this organisation is dealing, but I want to know whether the Government of India is negotiating with the Russian Government to convince it to deal directly with shipyard and OEA.

SHRI A.K. ANTONY: That is what I answered. As per the new Russian law, now, no country, not just India, anywhere in the world, can deal directly with an OEM in Russia; they can deal only with their apex body—ROSOBORON Export. That is the new decree signed by President Putin which is applicable to all countries.

Findings in Tenkasi bomb blast case

*526. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the findings of the police investigation in Tenkasi bomb blast case;

(b) its implications on the national security; and

(c) whether it is fact that similar blasts were conducted in Nanded and parcel bombs in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) As per the information provided by the Government of Tamil Nadu, on 24.1.2008, there were two pipe bomb explosions in Tenkasi, Tirunelveli district one near the door of the Rashtriya Swayam Sevak Sangh (RSS) office and the other at New Bus Stand in which one person sustained simple injury. Two cases have been registered under Indian Penal Code and Explosive Substances Act in Tenkasi Police Station. in all eight persons have been arrested in this connection.

Investigations have revealed that the bomb blasts were carried out by the accused due to personal enmity arising from the murder of his brother by some Muslims. The accused had conspired to give the episode a communal colour, so as to invite police action against the other group.

(b) and (c) According to the assessment of the Government of Tamil Nadu, the two bomb blasts at Tenkasi were in the nature of solitary incidents. Investigation by Government of Tamil Nadu have not revealed any connection between the bomb blast at Tenkasi and the blasts in Nanded, Maharashtra in 2006.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, my question relates to a matter which is connected with the national security of this country. The Tamil nadu Police must be congratulated for unearthing a diabolical conspiracy in the Tenkasi bomb blast case where bombs were placed in the RSS office and also in the bus stand. It was found that there was a big